

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

**FILED**

AUG - 5 2021

Clerk, U.S. District & Bankruptcy  
Court for the District of Columbia

SHAUN RUSHING, )  
)  
Plaintiff, )  
)  
v. ) Civil Action No. 21-01908 (UNA)  
)  
UNITED STATES SOCIAL )  
SECURITY ADMINISTRATION, )  
)  
Defendant. )

**MEMORANDUM OPINION**

This matter is before the court on its initial review of Plaintiff's *pro se* complaint and application for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis*. *Pro se* litigants must comply with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. *Jarrell v. Tisch*, 656 F. Supp. 237, 239 (D.D.C. 1987). Rule 8(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure requires complaints to contain "(1) a short and plain statement of the grounds for the court's jurisdiction [and] (2) a short and plain statement of the claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief." Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a); see *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 556 U.S. 662, 678-79 (2009); *Ciralsky v. CIA*, 355 F.3d 661, 668-71 (D.C. Cir. 2004). The Rule 8 standard ensures that defendants receive fair notice of the claim being asserted so that they can prepare a responsive answer and an adequate defense and determine whether the doctrine of *res judicata* applies. *Brown v. Califano*, 75 F.R.D. 497, 498 (D.D.C. 1977).

Plaintiff alleges that the Social Security Administration has discriminated against him by denying his applications for Medicare and Medicaid benefits. But Plaintiff neither identifies a

“final decision of the Commissioner of Social Security,” 42 U.S.C. § 405(g), nor alleges sufficient facts from which the Commissioner may reasonably identify the decision being challenged.

As drafted, Plaintiff’s *pro se* complaint fails to comply with the minimal pleading standard set forth in Rule 8(a). The Court will thus dismiss the complaint without prejudice and will grant the application to proceed *in forma pauperis*. An Order consistent with this Memorandum Opinion is issued separately.

DATE: August 4, 2021

  
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CARL J. NICHOLS  
United States District Judge